

The Hon Catherine King MP  
Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government  
PO Box 6022  
House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Minister

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to Chair the Strategic Fleet Taskforce. My fellow Taskforce members and I have valued the experience and appreciate the confidence you have shown in asking us to advise you on the establishment of a strategic fleet of vessels to strengthen our economic sovereignty and national security.

I am pleased to present you with our final report, in accordance with the Taskforce Terms of Reference. We are confident that we have addressed all of the Terms of Reference in our report.

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This report builds on the interim report provided to you last December, and has been informed by broad stakeholder consultation, and allowed the validity of the Taskforce's advice to be tested. Additional research and analysis provided by consultants engaged on behalf of the Taskforce have also informed our thinking.

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I would like to thank my fellow Taskforce members - Mr Paddy Crumlin, Ms Angela Gillham, Dr Sarah Ryan, and Major-General Jason Walk, for their considered advice and collaboration throughout the Taskforce process. I also give my thanks to officials from your Department for their valuable assistance in this effort. The Department has gone over and beyond to assist the Taskforce in submitting this report in the short timeframe available. Lastly, the Taskforce members have all indicated a willingness to contribute to the next phase of the establishment of the strategic fleet, should the government so desire.

I trust the advice and recommendations presented in this report assist the Government in establishing the strategic fleet and I am happy to discuss any aspects of the report with you.

Yours sincerely

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John Mullen  
Chair  
Strategic Fleet Taskforce  
30 June 2023

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